



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DEC 27 2002

Applicant : Skolnick et al.

Art Unit : 1631

Serial No. : 09/322,067

Examiner : Dr. Michael Borin

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed : May 27, 1999

Title : METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PREDICTING PROTEIN FUNCTION

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

#311  
GP  
12-28-02

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed June 17, 2002, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks set forth herein. The response was initially due September 17, 2002. Applicants herein submit a petition for a three month extension of time to December 17, 2002, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

This response is also accompanied by a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Thus, the finality of the outstanding final office action should be withdrawn, as Applicants are entitled to have this first submission for this RCE entered and considered on the merits. The following documents are transmitted herewith:

The following documents are also enclosed herewith:

- Postcard
- check
- Petition for extension of time
- Request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
- "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made"

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

12/24/2002 AWONDAF1 00000136 09322067

02 FC:1201  
02 FC:1202  
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252.00 DP  
846.00 DP  
280.00 DP

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327 Arlington, VA 22202.

Date of Deposit

Signature

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

12/17/02  
Jeanne Amour Rice  
Jeanne Amour Rice